

Roxbury, Oct. 16, 1873.

My dear Fanny— I must tell you how greatly obliged we are to you for sending us such excellent photographs of Harold and Oswald. The former looks very cunning in his nicely fitting costume, and presents a happy countenance. I think he is growing to resemble you, especially about the eyes. Your explanation as to the little gun which he is holding is entirely satisfactory to his pacific grandpapa. But if you should at any time buy him sword or gun, and make him a soldier's paper cap, by way of amusement, I should be sorry for the bias it might give to his mind. As for Oswald, he is certainly a noble looking baby, and seems by the pose of his head and his searching look to be much older than he is. Their photographs are eagerly scanned by all who come to see us, and elicit the most complimentary remarks. So does that of darling Helen, in whose development I take the deepest interest, and who has a place in the very core of my heart.

What I saw of Heidelberg made a deep impression upon me as to the beauty of its locality; but your glowing description of the many charming aspects its ^{scenery} presents makes me all the more desirous of seeing it again. If I resided there, I should be a frequent visitor to that grand old ruin, the castle, which affected me more than any other ruin I saw when abroad. I have several excellent stereoscopic views of it, from different angles, and also of Heidelberg, so that as I look at them I seem to be almost by your side. Probably the house that you occupy might be pointed out by you on the card.

I hope house-keeping will not prove too great an expense to Harry; but it certainly will prove burdensome if you indulge in too many dishes, and especially too much company. Don't be imposed upon or get overtaxed by visitors. Remember Washington! — I fear Harry takes too long excursions on foot, and that you have already erred in the same way. — Nothing can be done for the Mortgage Bank in the present financial panic. W.L.G.